Information Technology
E-Government • E-Commerce

October 2009

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH, 2009

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION
October 1, 2009

Americans are constantly adopting new and innovative technologies. This exposure has dramatically increased our thirst for computers, smartphones, and other digital solutions at work and at home. Our Nation's growing dependence on cyber and information-related technologies, coupled with an increasing threat of malicious cyber attacks and loss of privacy, has given rise to the need for greater security of our digital networks and infrastructures. In the Information Age, the very technologies that empower us to create and build also empower those who would disrupt and destroy. During National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, we rededicate ourselves to promoting cybersecurity initiatives that ensure the confidentiality of sensitive information, the integrity of e-commerce, and the resilience of digital infrastructures.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Presidential-Proclamation-National-Cybersecurity-Awareness-Month/
MORE: http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/National-Cybersecurity-Awareness-Month/
POSTER: http://staysafeonline.org/ncsam

02 October 2009
SEEKING A NEW GENERATION OF CYBERDEFENDERS
CONTESTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS WILL HELP YOUNG EXPERTS
HONE SKILLS
By Jacquelyn S. Porth
U.S. Department of State Staff Writer

Washington — Though they tend to be young and eager, skilled cybersecurity experts are small in number. There simply are not enough of them to meet projected long-term global public and private sector requirements.

Corporations, smaller businesses and governments need future leaders who can provide information assurance by protecting computer networks containing proprietary information or political-military strategies and monitoring, detecting, analyzing and responding to any actions that could compromise or infiltrate those networks.
…

The U.S. Cyber Challenge — a three-part national competition seeking to identify 10,000 young Americans with exceptional computer aptitude — is sponsored by an existing public-private partnership. The competition is sponsored by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington-based public policy research institute; the Defense Department; the SANS Institute; and the Air Force Association.

The most promising candidates will be offered additional training at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Carnegie Mellon's Computer Emergency Response Team, the Energy Department's main laboratories or elsewhere.
…

Non–U.S. citizens can participate in some of these competitions, but are ineligible to win or participate in follow-on development programs. The Digital Forensics Challenge included teams from Chad and India in 2008. In 2009, CyberPatriot, which asks competitors to defend a simulated business network from attack, registered teams from Japan and South Korea.

http://www.america.gov/st/peacesec-english/2009/October/20091001163358SJhtroP0.9228784.html?CP.rss=true

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

RECOMMENDED SECURITY CONTROLS FOR FEDERAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND ORGANIZATIONS. National Institute of Standards and Technology. August 2009.
The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) releases its final version of a publication which represents a major step toward building a unified information security framework for the entire federal government. [PDF format, 236 pages].
http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-53-Rev3/sp800-53-rev3-final.pdf

CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS (HEARINGS, REPORTS, ETC.)

SOCIAL NETWORKING AND CONSTITUENT COMMUNICATIONS: MEMBER USE OF TWITTER DURING A TWO-WEEK PERIOD IN THE 111TH CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Matthew Eric Glassman et al. September 21, 2009.
During the past 15 years, the development of new electronic technologies have altered the traditional patterns of communication between Members of Congress and constituents. Many Members now use e-mail, official websites, blogs, Youtube channels, and Facebook pages to communicate with their constituents--technologies that were either non-existent or not widely available 15 years ago. Members' use of Twitter can be divided into six categories: position taking, press or web links, district or state activities, official congressional action, personal, and replies.
http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40823_20090921.pdf [PDF format, 15 pages].
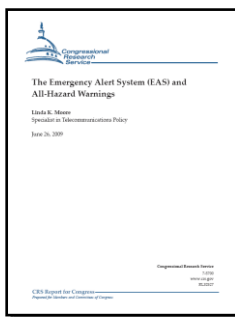
THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) AND ALL-HAZARD WARNINGS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Linda K. Moore. June 26, 2009.
The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is built on a structure conceived in the 1950's when over- the-air broadcasting was the best-available technology for widely disseminating emergency alerts. It is one of several federally managed warning systems. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), working with the Association of Public Television Stations, is implementing a program that will disseminate national alert messages over digital broadcast airwaves, using satellite and public TV broadcast towers.
http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL32527_20090626.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

IMPROVING BROADBAND AND MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS; A Discussion with Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski. Brookings Institution, September 21, 2009
Recognizing the need to expand the U.S. broadband network to ensure America's infrastructure and economic development, Congress tasked the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) with developing a national broadband plan by February 17, 2010. On

September 21, FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski delivered remarks on the national broadband plan and other communications issues.
http://www.brookings.edu/events/2009/0921_broadband_communications.aspx

FCC CHAIRMAN PROPOSES NEW NET NEUTRALITY PLANS. Darrell M. West, Vice President and Director, Governance Studies. The Brookings Institution, September 21, 2009

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski made news today at the Brookings Institution by announcing plans to expand so-called "net neutrality" rules for Internet providers. Before a packed auditorium filled with media, consumer organizations, company representatives and a nationwide webcasting audience, he proposed that the FCC add two rules to the principles already adopted by the Commission in 2005.

Those principles gave consumers the right to "choose content, applications, services, and devices". The chairman advocated an anti-discrimination rule that would prevent Internet providers from blocking or slowing the utilization of competing services, and a transparency rule that would require providers disclose how they manage traffic.
http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0921_fcc_west.aspx
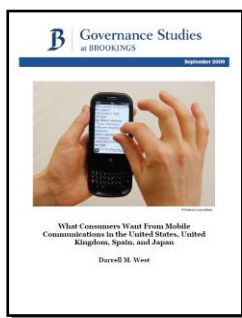
WHAT CONSUMERS WANT FROM MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS. Darrell M. West. The Brookings Institution, September 14, 2009

In the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Congress tasked the FCC with developing a national broadband policy by February 17, 2010 to boost our nation's communications infrastructure and long-term economic development. Darrell West explores in a new study what consumers want from new mobile communications in the United States, Spain, United Kingdom, and Spain and how these results demonstrate the virtue of innovation and open networks for communications policy.
http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2009/09_mobile_west.aspx

BLOGS AS PUBLIC FORUMS FOR AGENCY POLICYMAKING. Julianne Mahler and Priscilla M. Regan. The Brookings Institution, August 31, 2009.

Blogs represent opportunities for individuals to express views, comment on the opinions of others and build a new online community. The U.S. government understands blogs' dynamism and, as a result, agencies are seeking to increase their online presence by developing their own blogs. Julianne Mahler and Priscilla Regan examine the ways governmental and non-governmental blogs are used to link citizens and government officials.
http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2009/08_blogs_mahler_regan.aspx

BUSINESS SOFTWARE ALLIANCE

RESILIENCE AMID TURMOIL: BENCHMARKING IT INDUSTRY COMPETITIVENESS 2009. Business Software Alliance, Sep-16-2009

The global competitiveness index for the information technologies industry (IT) is drawn up by The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) and assesses and compares the situation of the IT industry in sixty-six countries to determine the extent to which they foster competitiveness in the sector. The United States maintains its first position in the index, followed by Finland, Sweden, Canada

and Holland. Spain is in 25th position, two down on the previous year.
http://global.bsa.org/2009eiu/

CENTER FOR INFORMATION & SOCIETY, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
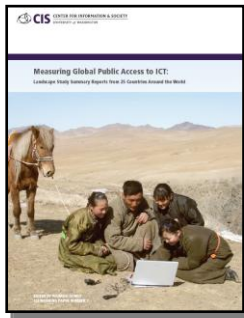
MEASURING GLOBAL PUBLIC ACCESS TO ICT: LANDSCAPE STUDY SUMMARY REPORTS FROM 25 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD - CIS Working Paper No. 7.
This document contains a collection of short summary reports for each of the 25 countries included in the Public Access Landscape Study conducted by CIS. The Landscape Study examines how people around the world access and use information and computers in public settings such as public libraries, telecentres and cybercafés. Understanding public access is particularly important in developing countries where there is often limited private access to information and communication technologies (ICT). This study covers a carefully-selected sample of 25 developing countries containing over 250,000 public access settings. Local research teams surveyed over 25,000 people and conducted interviews and focus groups in order to develop a detailed picture of the public access ICT landscape in each country. CIS is collecting, interpreting and analyzing these detailed country-level results, and is also conducting cross-country comparative analyses to uncover common themes, challenges and opportunities. The goal of this work is to help strengthen public access to information and ICTs around the world. Click here to see full report or visit the Landscape Study website for more details on research design or to find full country reports:
http://cis.washington.edu/depository/landscape/documents/CIS-WorkingPaperNo7.pdf

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (CSIS)

TWENTY IMPORTANT CONTROLS FOR EFFECTIVE CYBER DEFENSE AND FISMA COMPLIANCE. Consensus Audit Guidelines - Draft for comment. By John Gilligan, Ed Skoudis. CSIS, Aug 10, 2009
Securing the United States against cyber attacks has become one of the nation's highest priorities. To achieve this objective, networks, systems, and the operations teams that support them must vigorously defend against external attacks. Furthermore, for those external attacks that are successful, defenses must be capable of thwarting, detecting, and responding to follow-on attacks on internal networks as attackers spread inside a compromised network. A central tenet of the U.S. Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative (CNCI) is that "offense must inform defense." In other words, knowledge of actual attacks that have compromised systems provides the essential foundation on which to construct effective defenses. The Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee moved to make this same tenet central to the Federal Information Security Management Act in drafting FISMA 2008.
http://csis.org/files/publication/Twenty_Critical_Controls_for_Effective_Cyber_Defense_CAG.pdf

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS (CFR)

TECHNOLOGY AND COMMERCE: THE IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL COVERAGE. CFR Event Transcript, September 10, 2009
Four experts discuss the impact of technology on the press and the future of traditional media.
http://www.cfr.org/issue/114/health_science_and_technology.html

COVERITY INC.

2009 COVERITY SCAN OPEN SOURCE REPORT. CoverityInc,. September 2009

Many developers who write software in popular open source languages like Perl and Ruby are writing programs with more high-quality code these days, according to a recent survey conducted by Coverity Inc., a company that creates tools for software development and integrity - good news for security-minded consumers, to say the least. "They've got just millions of users out there who are depending on the code. These developers know that and they take it fairly seriously, so they do a number of things to make their development practices as good as possible," said company Open Source Strategist and Scan Program Director David Maxwell.

The company released the 2009 Coverity Scan *Open Source Report* in September, the second of its kind and the result of an analysis of a three-year data pool of developer-submitted code that's been examined for software defects by the Coverity Scan project. Since 2006, the company's Scan site has given more than 60 million lines of code the once-over from more than 280 projects like Firefox, Linux and PHP.

http://www.coverity.com/scan/

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOUNDATION

EXPLAINING INTERNATIONAL IT APPLICATION LEADERSHIP: HEALTH IT. By Daniel Castro. ITIF, September 22, 2009

In this report, ITIF Senior Analyst Daniel Castro identifies which countries are leading in the deployment of health IT and highlights lessons that might be useful for other countries. The first section of the report gives an overview of the current state of and trends in health IT adoption in the United States and several other developed countries, particularly focusing on Denmark, Finland and Sweden. The second section of the report identifies the factors that have led to success in these countries and the lessons that can be learned by other nations to drive health IT adoption. Finally, the report concludes with specific recommendations for policymakers to jumpstart progress on health IT in the United States.

http://www.itif.org/files/2009-leadership-healthit.pdf

LEARNING FROM THE KOREAN GREEN IT STRATEGY. ITIF Webmemo, August 06, 2009

South Korea is poised to become the world leader in green technology, through a wide array of government policies supporting green technology, strong national leadership and a substantial commitment of public funding for this effort. Other nations should look to the South Korean example as they develop their own national green IT strategies.

http://itif.org/files/WM-2009-02-GreenIT.pdf

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY AND DATA MINING

MEME-TRACKING AND THE DYNAMICS OF THE NEWS CYCLE. International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining. Jure Leskovec et al. July 2009.
Tracking new topics, ideas, and "memes" across the Web has been an issue of considerable interest, according to the paper. Recent work has developed methods for tracking topic shifts over long time scales, as well as abrupt spikes in the appearance of particular named entities. However, these approaches are less well suited to the identification of content that spreads widely and then fades over time scales on the order of days, the time scale at which we perceive news and events.
http://memetracker.org/quotes-kdd09.pdf [PDF format, 9 pages].

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

ENSURING THE INTEGRITY, ACCESSIBILITY, AND STEWARDSHIP OF RESEARCH DATA IN THE DIGITAL AGE. National Academy of Sciences. July 22, 2009.
Though digital technologies and high-speed communications have significantly expanded the capabilities of scientists, allowing them to analyze and share vast amounts of data, these technologies are also raising difficult questions for researchers, institutions, and journals. Because digital data can be manipulated more easily than other forms, they are particularly susceptible to distortion. Questions about how to maintain the data generated, who should have access, and who pays to store them can be controversial, according to the study.
http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12615#toc [HTML format with links].

OECD
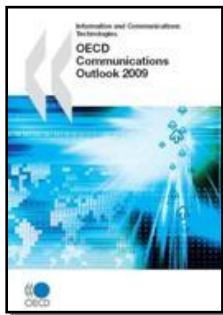
OECD COMMUNICATIONS OUTLOOK 2009. August 2009
The OECD Communications Outlook 2009 presents the most recent comparable data on the performance of the communication sector in OECD countries and on their policy frameworks.
The 2009 edition analyses the communications sector over the years following the "dot com bubble" crisis and explores future developments. The OECD Communications Outlook provides an extensive range of indicators for the development of different communications networks and compares performance indicators such as revenue, investment, employment and prices for service throughout the OECD area. These indicators are essential for industry and for regulators who use benchmarking to evaluate policy performance.
http://www.oecd.org/document/44/0,3343,en_2649_34223_43435308_1_1_1_1,00.html

PEW INTERNET & AMERICAN LIFE PROJECT

THE INTERNET AS A DIVERSION. Pew Internet & American Life. Aasron Smith. September 2009.
Three-quarters of online economic users, those Americans who use the internet to keep up with news about the economic recession or their own personal finances, go online to relax and take their minds off of the recession, according to an April 2009 survey by the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project. [PDF format, 11 pages].
http://www.pewinternet.org/~/media//Files/Reports/2009/PIP-The-Internet-as-a-Diversion.pdf

THE INTERNET AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Aaron Smith et al. September 2009.

Contrary to the hopes of some advocates, the internet is not changing the socioeconomic character of civic engagement in America, says the report. Just as in offline civic life, the well-to-do and well-educated are more likely than those less well off to participate in online political activities such as emailing a government official, signing an online petition or making a political contribution. [PDF format, 66 pages].
http://www.pewinternet.org/~/media/Files/Reports/2009/The%20Internet%20and%20Civic%20Engagement.pdf

TEENS AND MOBILE PHONES OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS: PEW INTERNET LOOKS BACK. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Amanda Lenhart. 2009.

The Project first surveyed teenagers about their mobile phones in 2004 when a survey showed that 45% of teens had a cell phone. Since then mobile phone use has climbed steadily among teens to 63% in 2006 and 71% in 2008. [HTML format with links].
http://www.pewinternet.org/Reports/2009/14--Teens-and-Mobile-Phones-Data-Memo.aspx

THE AUDIENCE FOR ONLINE VIDEO-SHARING SITES SHOOTS UP. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Mary Madden. July 29, 2009.

As the audience for online video continues to grow, a leading edge of internet users are migrating their viewing from their computer screens to their TV screens, according to the study.
http://www.pewinternet.org/~/media//Files/Reports/2009/The-Audience-for-Online-Video-Sharing-Sites-Shoots-Up.pdf

WIRELESS INTERNET USE. Pew Internet & American Life Project. John Horrigan.

The survey shows that 56% of adult Americans have accessed the internet by wireless means, such as using a laptop, mobile device, game console, or MP3 player. The most prevalent way people get online using a wireless network is with a laptop computer; 39% of adults have done this. It also finds rising levels of Americans using the internet on a mobile handset. One-third of Americans (32%) have used a cell phone or Smartphone to access the internet for emailing, instant-messaging, or information-seeking. [PDF format, 48 pages].
http://www.pewinternet.org/~/media//Files/Reports/2009/Wireless-Internet-Use.pdf

HOME BROADBAND ADOPTION 2009. Pew Internet & American Life Project. John Horrigan. June 17, 2009.

An April 2009 survey by the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project shows 63% of adult Americans now have broadband internet connections at home, a 15% increases from a year earlier. April's level of high-speed adoption represents a significant jump from figures gathered by the Project since the end of 2007 (54%). The growth in home broadband adoption occurred even though survey respondents reported paying more for broadband compared to May 2008. Last year, the average monthly bill for broadband internet service at home was $34.50, a figure that stands at $39.00 in April 2009. [PDF format, 50 pages].
http://www.pewinternet.org/~/media//Files/Reports/2009/Home-Broadband-Adoption-2009.pdf

THE STATE OF MUSIC ONLINE: TEN YEARS AFTER NAPSTER. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Mary Madden. June 15, 2009.

In the decade since Napster's launch, selling recorded music has become as much of an art as making the music itself. The music industry has been on the front lines of the battle to convert freeloaders into paying customers, and their efforts have been watched closely by other digitized industries, newspapers, book publishing and Hollywood among them, who are hoping to staunch their own bleeding before it's too late, according to the report.
http://www.pewinternet.org/~/media//Files/Reports/2009/The-State-of-Music-Online_-Ten-Years-After-Napster.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE

FORCING THE NET THROUGH A SIEVE: WHY COPYRIGHT FILTERING IS NOT A VIABLE SOLUTION FOR U.S. IPSS. Public Knowledge. Mehan Jayasuriya et al. July 2009.
The analysis shows that filtering of Internet content as advocated by big media companies will not work and will be harmful to the Internet. Gigi B. Sohn, president and co-founder of Public Knowledge, said the report, "… examines for the first time the complex topic of content filtering from the technical, economic and legal perspectives. Content filtering fails in all of these tests. Filtering will not be the 'magic bullet' that the media moguls want, but it could degrade and alter the Internet for everyone while invading the privacy of every Internet user. There is no reason that any Internet Service Provider or media company should even think about engaging in such activity." [PDF format, 60 pages].
http://www.publicknowledge.org/pdf/pk-filtering-whitepaper-200907.pdf

SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER

FACEBOOK, YOUTUBE+: HOW SOCIAL MEDIA OUTLETS IMPACT DIGITAL TERRORISM AND HATE. Simon Wiesenthal Center. June 2009.
The recent arrests in the tragic murders of Stephen Tyrone Jones at the U.S. Holocaust Museum and Dr. George Tiller at his Kansas church uncovered more evidence of how viral hate online incubates, empowers and emboldens violent bigots, says the author. With over one and a half billion users, almost one quarter of the world's population, the Internet is the prime means of communication and marketing in the world. Sites such as Facebook and YouTube have both seen a huge proliferation of extremist use with the greatest increase coming from overseas, particularly Europe and the Middle East. [PDF format, 56 pages].
http://www.wiesenthal.com/atf/cf/%7B54d385e6-f1b9-4e9f-8e94-890c3e6dd277%7D/LA-RELEASE_2.PDF

WORLD BANK

HIGH SPEED INTERNET ENABLES GROWTH, JOB CREATION AND GOOD GOVERNANCE. World Bank. June 30, 2009.
Access to affordable broadband Internet and mobile phone services enables development across all levels of the economy and society, according to the study. In addition, information technology services industries create jobs, especially among youth, while modern, technology-enabled governments are more efficient, transparent and responsive.
http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22231728~menuPK:34457~pagePK:34370~piPK:34424~theSitePK:4607,00.html?cid=ISG_E_WBWeeklyUpdate_NL [HTML format, various paging].

ZUNIA KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE.ONLINE

WEB-BASED GIS AND THE FUTURE OF PARTICIPATORY GIS APPLICATIONS WITHIN LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES. Dr. Peter Kyem and Dr. James Saku. *Zunia.org,* **September 2009**
As resource managers search for strategies to meet the challenges posed by intense competition for scarce local resources, the implementation of Community-based GIS applications have become widespread. Besides mapping, the Participatory GIS (PGIS)

projects create a peaceful medium for community groups and public officials to meet, exchange views and also learn to develop trust for each other. However, PGIS projects face many problems including the lack of basic supporting infrastructure and services. The adoption of the Internet as a platform for PGIS applications therefore raises concerns about the future of PGIS projects. While the Internet may open the participatory process, it can also hinder participation among local groups. In an era when PGIS applications have become important in the management of local resources, there is an urgent need to examine implications of the On-line PGIS project. Accordingly, in their paper, Dr. Peter Kyem and Dr. James Saku assess the potential benefits and drawbacks of on-line PGIS applications within local communities.

http://participatorygis.blogspot.com/2009/09/web-based-gis-and-future-of.html

GREAT CHOICE OF TOOLS TO SHARE DOCUMENTS AND DEVELOP CONTENT ONLINE. *Zunia.org,* September 18, 2009

Sharing documents and texts is the daily task of knowledge workers. Did you know that there are numerous choices for online-document-sharing? This post gives an overview of document and text sharing tools for teams and projects, which help you save time by avoiding emails and attachments. They are also great backup and versioning tools.

http://zunia.org/post/great-choice-of-tools-to-share-documents-and-develop-content-online/

ARTICLES FROM U.S. JOURNALS

FEATURES: THE GOSPEL OF GOV. By Jill R. Aitoro. *Government Executive* October 1, 2009

Leading government into the land of wikis, blogs and social media isn't easy.

Even Sean Dennehy, whose title is evangelist for the intelligence community's widely lauded collaboration Web site Intellipedia, was initially skeptical. "Cal Andrus spoke to a technology advisory group that I was a part of about wikis and blogs, and we all said, 'This guy is crazy,' " Dennehy recalls. Andrus, who worked in the application services office at the CIA, had won the intelligence community's Galileo Award in 2004 for his white paper on using the Internet to boost information sharing.

Despite a preconceived notion that Web 2.0 technologies had little place in the intelligence community, Dennehy fiddled online with the build-as-you-go encyclopedia, Wikipedia, to see where Andrus was coming from. Sifting through the discussion and history tabs for each entry, he quickly saw similarities in the online community's style of collaboration and the way he and his colleagues at the CIA worked as intelligence analysts. Both approaches involved a lot of dialogue and building on the ideas of others. The big difference, though, was information sharing on the Web required only a few mouse clicks.

"Everyone has a light bulb moment," Dennehy says. "That was mine." He went back to Andrus to ask how the intelligence community could get this sort of wiki up and running. In 2006, Intellipedia officially launched. Three years later, the application boasts about 5,000 contributions and 15,000 edits per day.

But getting there hasn't been easy.

"It's bloody hard, because every inclination in government is to close these types of things down," says Don Burke, officially known as the Intellipedia doyen, who spearheaded the initiative with Dennehy. "People want some magical formula to innovation, but it's not that predictable. They just need to fight like hell."

http://www.govexec.com/features/1009-01/1009-01s1.htm

FACEBOOK HIT WITH NEW SPYWARE SCAM; HACKERS BYPASSED THE SOCIAL NETWORKING SITE'S CAPTCHAS TO CREATE NEW ACCOUNTS AT WILL. By Larry Barrett. Internetnews.com,October 1, 2009

Facebook on Thursday was hit with yet another spyware attack. This time hackers managed to crack the security captchas -- the words or letter combinations that users are asked to retype when registering -- to create new Facebook accounts designed to steal users' account and personal information. Roger Thompson, chief of research at AVG Technologies, detailed this latest scam in a blog post Thursday morning. He said that this new tactic was "one of the first if not the first time" that hackers were able to compromise the Facebook captcha.
"We're seeing a lot of these, all from different profiles, but with the same picture and link," Thompson said. "I'm sure Facebook will deactivate all these accounts as quickly as they find them, but it can't be an easy thing for them to find."
http://www.internetnews.com/security/article.php/3841921/Facebook+Hit+With+New+Spyware+Scam.htm

FACEBOOK CONNECT CHARGES FORWARD; THE SOCIAL NETWORKING GIANT MOVES ON TWO FRONTS TO EXTEND ITS REACH. By David Needle. Internetnews.com, September 30, 2009

Facebook has come a long, long way from a social network limited to college students.
Today, Facebook announced Facebook Connect Wizard, a major enhancement to Facebook Connect, its tool designed to integrate Facebook with other Web sites.
The news follows last night's announcement of another release, Translations for Facebook Connect. Translations is a free tool designed to help simplify the process of translating the content on a Web site into any of the over 65 languages Facebook supports.
Facebook said the new Connect Wizard streamlines the process of implementing Facebook Connect -- which lets users port their account information, photos and links to friends from Facebook to other sites -- down to three easy steps.
The company also released Playground for Facebook Connect, which provides sample code for adding profile pictures, usernames and friends to your Web site.
http://www.internetnews.com/webcontent/article.php/3841761/Facebook+Connect+Charges+Forward.htm

BRANDCONNECT: SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLS FOR BRAND AWARENESS. By Vangie Beal. *Internetnews.com,* September 29, 2009

PowerReviews, a provider of customer reviews and social commerce solutions recently launched BrandConnect, a new suite of relationship-building products, designed for brand owners and merchants. The study, which assessed the attitudes and actions of brands and retailers as they make their way through the world of social media, found that five out of ten social media tools have been adopted by more than 50 percent of brands and retailers, and that the Facebook Fan Page was the most popular social media platform
http://www.ecommerce-guide.com/news/news/article.php/3841411

HONOLULU CUTS COSTS WITH FIRST ALL-DIGITAL ELECTION IN THE U.S. By Chad Vander Veen. *Government Technolgy.com*, Sep 23, 2009.

Electronic voting has a bad rap it can't seem to shake. Across the country e-voting machines are regarded skeptically at best. Many citizen activists and some elections officials have re-embraced paper as the best and most accurate way to vote.
In May 2009, the city and county of Honolulu tried a different approach for electing members of its Neighborhood Boards. Instead of e-voting machines, residents voted either online or by phone. No paper ballots were available. The all-digital election -- which may be the first of its type in the United States -- didn't come about because the government sought to advance technology. The move was driven by a more pedestrian reason: budget cuts.
http://www.govtech.com/gt/726837?topic=117673

FIVE E-MAIL MARKETING MISTAKES TO AVOID. By Helen Bradley. E-Commerce.guide.com, September 22, 2009

Not paying enough attention to your e-mail marketing effort can lose you customers and compromise selling opportunities. While e-mail marketing is a great way to stay in contact with your customers, if handled badly it also has the power to ruin the relationship.
http://www.ecommerce-guide.com/solutions/advertising/article.php/3840356

CREATIVE TENSION: GOOGLE'S CORPORATE CULTURE; THE INTERNET GIANT SEEKS NEW WAYS TO FOSTER INNOVATION. From *The Economist* print edition, Sep 17th 2009

Illustration by Claudio Munoz

FEW companies are as creative as Google, which serves up innovations almost as fast as its popular search-engine serves up results. This week the firm unveiled a new version of its Chrome web browser and launched Fast Flip, which lets users scroll through the contents of an online newspaper in much the same way that they leaf through its pages in print. On September 30th the company will roll out another fledgling product, Google Wave, for a test involving some 100,000 people. Billed as a revolutionary way to collaborate online, Wave is also the product of a new, more structured approach to innovation within the company.
http://www.economist.com/businessfinance/displayStory.cfm?story_id=14460051&source=hptextfeature

BIRTH OF A ROBOT. Tucker, Abigail. *Smithsonian* vol. 40, no. 4, July 2009, pp. 56-65

Summary: The author writes that if a robot is ever going to be useful humans as portrayed on television or film, it can't be merely a vessel into which its inventors pour knowledge. It has to recognize humans individually, and identify our needs and changing circumstances, and it has to be able to deduce and reason. Researchers at the University of California at San Diego's Machine Perception Laboratory are building a robot that will develop those capabilities as a child does. They are borrowing from developmental psychology to do that, and attempting to create a computer with the capacity to acquire skills gradually in response to its environment. The article describes various intriguing prototypes researchers have experimented with, but also describes the human reactions to these creations on the part of the researchers, their friends and families. The group's research is at a very early stage, but Tucker's description of their work makes clear that this area of scientific pursuit is not only about the machines, but about our level of comfort in creating and interacting with a mechanical being that has human qualities.
http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/Birth-of-a-Robot.html

CIRCULATION BOOST? Skowronski, Will. *American Journalism Review*, June/July 2009

Summary: Some newspapers are turning to easy-to-carry electronic readers as a way to attract and keep subscribers while cutting back on print and delivery costs. The New York Times, the Boston Globe and the Washington Post, already available via the Kindle, will pilot editions on a newer version of the device this summer. The papers will offer the subscriptions at a reduced cost to readers out of the home-delivery range who agree to long-term subscriptions. The Detroit Free Press and the Detroit News, which have already sharply cut back home delivery to save newsroom jobs, plan to rely on electronic editions even more -- and so far the readers have been receptive to the changes. Newspapers are taking electronic reading devices more seriously now that the technology is making them more user-friendly -- screens are more readable, displays larger and batteries last longer.
http://www.ajr.org/Article.asp?id=4768

AND DATA FOR ALL. Thompson, Nicholas. *Wired,* **vol. 17, no. 7, July 2009, pp. 68-71**

Summary: Barack Obama is the first president to appoint a chief information officer for the federal government. Vivek Kundra, who comes to the office having served in a similar position for the District of Columbia, is planning Data.gov, a Web site where all government-produced information will be easy to find, sort and download. When that is done, according to Kundra, the private sector will find ways to use the data which will create new services for the public and new sources of profit for entrepreneurs. He points to the example of the Global Positioning System, which was once the exclusive property of the Department of Defense; now, the system is publicly available and is used for a variety of commercial and public service purposes. "The key is recognizing that we don't have a monopoly on good ideas," Kundra told Thompson in an interview. "And that the federal government doesn't have infinite resources." http://www.wired.com/politics/onlinerights/magazine/17-07/mf_cio

INFOMANIA. Marsan, Carolyn. *Government Executive,* **vol. 41, no. 5, May 2009, pp. 34-42**

Summary: The author notes that as participatory government brings an onslaught of public comments online, agencies will need the right tools to make sense of it all. In 2008, the General Services Administration (GSA) had 214 million electronic communications with the U.S. public, and it expects that number to increase in 2009. Similar situations have developed at other government agencies as they realize that more and more of public opinion and commentary are going to be sustained through the new media. However, these new examples of social media have several challenges in adopting customer feedback techniques like those used in the private sector, such as asking citizens to rank their interests on various subjects. While federal agencies are new at gathering and analyzing public comments, private business is experienced in managing feedback by combining automated and manual processes, structured and unstructured data. Government agencies also have legal restrictions; they often have to negotiate standard terms of services with providers because the government is bound by multiple federal regulatory requirements. Currently available online at http://www.govexec.com/features/0509-01/0509-01s3.htm

AMERICA.GOV–U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PUBLICATIONS

ONLINE ADVERTISING TARGETS DYNAMIC U.S. HISPANIC MARKET; ADVERTISING STRATEGIES CAPITALIZE ON HISPANICS' FAMILY TIES. By Eric Green. U.S. Department of State, 29 September 2009
Camera cell phones are popular with Hispanic consumers.

Among the biggest advertisers in the United States, spending on ads targeting Hispanics reached $4.5 billion in 2007, a 27 percent increase over Hispanic-targeted spending two years earlier. Hispanics, the largest U.S. minority, are a "dream segment" for advertisers, Barber said, because of their growing buying power, their "economic optimism," and their loyalty to companies that woo them.
http://www.america.gov/st/business-english/2009/September/20090929101629berehellek0.6988336.html?CP.rss=true

LOW-RISK, HIGH-PROFIT OPPORTUNITIES DRIVE UP CYBERCRIME; COSTS FOR VICTIMS JUMP AS CYBER-ATTACKS TARGET GOVERNMENT SITES. By Andrzej Zwaniecki. U.S. Department of State, 28 September 2009
Television crews film cybercrime techniques at a forensic lab at state police headquarters in Richmond, Virginia.

Cybercriminals can profit from their activities because inadequate national and global legal frameworks make it difficult for law enforcement authorities to catch them. The ever-increasing reliance of businesses, governments and individuals on computer networks creates more opportunities for cybercrime, and its low-risk/high-profit nature attracts an increasing number of cybergangs, according to Karthik Kannan of Purdue University's Krannert School of Management.
http://www.america.gov/st/peacesec-english/2009/September/20090921193606saikceinawz0.926037.html?CP.rss=true

NATIONS DEFEND COMPUTER NETWORKS, WEB SITES: INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL COMMUNITIES ARE WORKING ON SOLUTIONS. By Jacquelyn S. Porth. U.S. Department of State, October 1, 2009

Analysts work inside the U.S. Air Force's Information Operations Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Washington — Cyber-attacks are no longer limited to student hoaxes. Computer networks and government and private Web sites around the world are increasingly being disrupted by organized criminals, intelligence adversaries and commercial spies.
The new breed of hackers puts pressure on many countries' defense and security agencies. But cooperation among allies promises better protection in cyberspace.
http://www.america.gov/st/peacesec-english/2009/October/20091001121158sjhtrop0.6507794.html?CP.rss=true

CYBERCRIME RISES AS HACKERS HONE TACTICS; LONE PERPETRATORS ARE OFTEN SEEKING THRILLS, NOT FINANCIAL GAIN. By Phillip KurataU.S. Department of State, 30 September 2009

Computer hackers gather at a 1997 hacking conference in New York. The hacker community has gone deeper underground in recent years.

Washington — Computer hackers, once thought of as intellectual pranksters, pose a growing menace to society because their skills in electronic intrusion are passing into the hands of criminals bent on financial gain, according to two British scholars who have studied the topic.

The people who populate this community are addicted to mastering the internal workings of computers and information systems and tend to see themselves as rebels against the dominant social and cultural norms, according to Jordan and Taylor. Although excited by the thrill of breaking into security systems, individual hackers generally do not seek financial profit, but are driven by a sense of power drawn from their ability to disrupt complex computer systems and from the recognition they receive from other hackers. They thrive on secrecy, because of the illicit nature of their intrusions, and publicity, because of the need to gloat about their exploits, the authors say.

http://www.america.gov/st/peacesec-english/2009/September/20090928125941cpataruk0.3137476.html?CP.rss=true

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